

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRUZ). Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:30 p.m. recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. CAPITO).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, all postcloture time on the Kirsch nomination expire at 5 p.m. today; further, that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; finally, that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Crytzer nomination be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, in Jon Meacham's biography of President George W. Bush—actually, I believe it is in the biography of President George H. W. Bush—Meacham quotes Prescott Bush, H.W. Bush's father and Senator Prescott Bush, of Connecticut, as saying that the Senate is the place where everybody in politics ultimately wants to be. Senator Prescott Bush, of Connecticut, said that the U.S. Senate is the place in politics where everybody in politics ultimately wants to be.

I have noticed that over the years, after an election, usually we have lost about 10 Members of the Senate—sometimes a couple more, sometimes a couple less. This year, it is 7. If you look at Georgia and what one has to go through to stay here or to get here given the amount of money being spent and the number of things being said in those two races, you would think that there might be a shortage of people today who would want to follow Senator Prescott Bush's advice but apparently not.

Instead of 10 people leaving this year, it is only 7, and only 4 of us are retiring voluntarily. I would like to take just a minute or two about each of the other six U.S. Senators who will not be coming back in the next Congress.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA MCSALLY

Madam President, MARTHA MCSALLY arrived with the same enthusiasm that she showed when she set records for women in combat as a pilot. She is a warrior. She knows how to take a hill. If you listened to her maiden address, which I did, and to her farewell address, which I did, she had a great sense of purpose, and she had her usual effectiveness during her relatively short period of time in the U.S. Senate. She was able to pass eight pieces of legislation and turn them into law. She made her mark during the time she was here.

TRIBUTE TO CORY GARDNER

Madam President, as for CORY GARDNER, of Colorado, when he leaves the Senate, it will become a little bit dimmer of a place because CORY GARDNER has such cheerfulness. Everyone recognizes that. He wakes up happy, and he goes to bed happy insofar as any of us here knows, and he came to the Senate with the same amount of enthusiasm.

He came to me early on and wanted to be and agreed to be the head of the America COMPETES effort. That legislation passed in 2005 and 2006—before he got here—to try to make our country more competitive in the world, but CORY took the leadership of that and led the reauthorization of it.

He spent 2 years heading the Republican Senatorial Committee and did a tremendously effective job.

Then, this year, he became a leader in the Great American Outdoors Act. Everyone agrees—there are not many times you can say that here, but everyone agrees, from the left to the right and up and down, that the Great American Outdoors Act is the most significant piece of environmental and outdoor recreation legislation in at least the last half century—since the Eisenhower years, really. It was a bipartisan parade of Senators, the President, and House Members, which is the way you get things done here. Yet, if it were a parade, you would have to say CORY, along with STEVE DAINES, was the drum major in the parade. He deserves great credit for that, and generations will be grateful to him.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL B. ENZI

Madam President, MIKE ENZI, of Wyoming, is retiring after 24 years. MIKE is an unassuming fellow. He is the only accountant in the Senate. He is impossible to defeat in Wyoming, apparently, because he drives 200 or 300 miles every weekend to every ice cream social that was invented, and if it had not been invented, he and Diana created it.

While he has been here, he has created the 80-percent rule, which says: Let's not argue about the 20 percent we disagree on, and let's look for the 80 percent we can work together on.

He was persistent in his work in the Marketplace Fairness Act, which kept the Federal Government from telling States what to tax and what not to tax and allowed the States to collect sales tax for goods that were sold in their States from out of State. That passed the Senate thanks to MIKE's work. It didn't pass the House, but the Senate agreed with Senator ENZI, and most States are grateful in this COVID period of time to have their revenues enhanced by the work of MIKE ENZI.

The Perkins Act—helping to create a better workforce in the United States—was a difficult bill to pass, but MIKE ENZI was the one who put it together.

Of course, he left his opportunity to be chairman of the committee I now chair—Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions—so that he could be the chairman of the Budget Committee. While there, he worked hard to solve a

problem that still needs to be solved—that of balancing our Federal budget, which, in the end, will require our finding a fair way to control the growth of entitlements.

TRIBUTE TO PAT ROBERTS

Madam President, PAT ROBERTS came to the Senate in 1967 in the way a lot of us have come—as a Senate aide. I came the same year. He worked for Senator Baker, who was working in the House of Representatives at the time. Yet we have seen in the Senate, through all of that time, its pluses and its minuses, and we have learned our way. PAT learned his way especially well.

I suppose he served longer on the Ethics Committee and longer on the Agriculture Committee than anyone, particularly if you count his service in the House and the Senate on the Agriculture Committees. His good humor and his resoluteness in terms of rural America and making sure that the farmers of our country have an environment in which they can succeed are legendary. I suspect for all of us, when we go sleep at night, that if PAT ROBERTS comes into our brains, the words “crop insurance” come right along behind him.

TRIBUTE TO DOUG JONES

Madam President, DOUG JONES only served for a short period of time, like MARTHA MCSALLY, but he made his mark as well.

When he gave his farewell address, I was here, and I said he reminded me of Ted Kennedy in this way: He kept his liberal principles. I didn't ever see him deviate from them, just like Ted Kennedy. He would stand back there and roar about this, that, or the other and make great fodder for the Republican Lincoln Day Dinners and Reagan Day Dinners in Tennessee. I used to say, when I was elected, if they had elected my opponent, my opponent would have come up here and moved Fred Thompson's desk over, and he would have set it right down between Ted Kennedy and Hillary Clinton and made it one vote harder for George W. Bush to have led our country and represent our values.

The Republicans liked that because they heard Ted Kennedy's liberal speeches, but I also said, when I made my maiden address, that, without my knowing it, Senator Kennedy had gone around and gotten 20 Democratic cosponsors. He was always working to get a result where he could. DOUG JONES has been the same way here, and I want to congratulate him for that.

He had a distinguished record in civil rights in Alabama—a courageous record—in prosecuting the Klansmen. He worked with TIM SCOTT, Senator PATTY MURRAY, and me—with Senator TIM SCOTT last year to permanently fund historically Black colleges, which was a goal that had been sought for many years—and he took a big step on simplifying the FAFSA, the Federal aid application form that 20 million American families fill out every year.